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Soviet-U.S. Statement 'Gave No Encouragement' on START
OW260023 Beijing XINHUA in English
1347 GMT 23 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow, April 23 (XINHUA)—A Soviet-U.S. joint statement yesterday gave no encouragement to those who hope for the leaders of the two superpowers to sign a treaty reducing strategic nuclear weapons each by 50 percent at the next summit.

The statement, issued after 2 days of talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, said only that "the 2 sides reiterated their firm commitment to complete the drafting of the treaty on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms and all related matters within the shortest time possible."

It did not mention the accord will necessarily be signed at the May summit, which was originally considered as the deadline, between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow.

Earlier, Shevardnadze told a press conference that the two countries have failed to identify "the key to resolving problems" keeping them from reducing strategic arms.

The Soviet Union, he said, believes there still is a chance of completing "that very difficult and very complicated work" by the end of May. "But I can tell you quite frankly that this is going to be very difficult," he added.

According to the statement, the main obstacles to the accord come from the superpowers' differences on how to classify long-range air-launched cruise missiles and verify their number, how to restrict and inspect long-range sea-launched cruise missiles installed with nuclear warheads, and how to define a restriction on mobile international ballistic missiles.

However, the two sides did make some progress in arms control other than areas mentioned above, the statement said.

Soviet Commentaries Blaming U.S. for Lack of START Progress Cited
OW241344z Beijing XINHUA in English
1338 GMT 24 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow, April 24 (XINHUA)—The Soviet armed forces daily RED STAR today blamed the United States for the slow progress in the Geneva talks for the reduction of offensive strategic nuclear weapons.

Meanwhile, the communist party newspaper PRAVDA said the closer the day for the summit talks in Moscow between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the less the confidence in the possibility of reaching a draft accord on the reduction of such weapons before the summit.

All the "major knots" on the road to an agreement have not been untied, it said.

The newspaper cited U.S. Information as saying that no agreement has been reached for the 1,200 pages of details in the four documents related to the draft. There has not been even a draft on the substantive issue of the accord—implementation of the "Anti-Ballistic Missile" (ABM) Treaty signed in 1972.

It also accused the United States of persisting in the Star Wars program and refusing to set a quota for the sea-based cruise missiles.

However, the RED STAR added, these problems could possibly be settled before Reagan's Moscow visit scheduled for May 29-June 2.

PHILIPPINES

Government Said Serious About Nuclear Ban

Foreign Secretary Cited

HK230855 Manila *THE MANILA CHRONICLE* in English 23 Apr 88 pp 1, 9

[By staff member Marites Sison]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said yesterday the Philippine panel has already "made it clear" to the American panel in the current military bases review that the Government is bent on implementing the constitutional provision banning nuclear weapons from Philippine territory.

In an interview, Manglapus did not comment on how the U.S. panel reacted to this but added that future discussion on the anti-nuclear issue would make the negotiations "more interesting."

The anti-nuclear provision in the Constitution challenges the U.S. policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear weapons on its bases. U.S. defense officials led by Adm. Ronald Hays, commander in chief of the Pacific, had earlier indicated that it would be disadvantageous for the U.S. if the Philippines adopts an absolute nuclear ban since 40 percent of its vessels are nuclear-powered.

A Senate bill which specifically prohibits the "development, manufacture, acquisition, testing, use or storage of nuclear weapons and nuclear-weapons-related facilities" on Philippine territory will be filed Monday.

The bill also prohibits the "entry transit, port calls, stationing and servicing in any part of Philippine territory of nuclear-armed, nuclear-powered or nuclear-capable military overland transporters, ships or seaborne vessels or submarines or aircrafts and airborne vehicles."

It provides, however, that warships and military vessels which are nuclear-powered and or nuclear-capable may be allowed to enter if they are in distress, but only upon "prior authorization" of the president and only for a limited duration.

Manglapus said the U.S. is "being as prudent as we are" when it stated that studies are being made to look for alternative sites for their bases here in case the Philippines decides to dismantle them after 1991, the expiry date of the MBA [Military Bases Agreement].

"We are also seriously considering studies on how to convert the facilities if the U.S. pulls out," Manglapus said.

Senate Opens Discussions

HK2604143488 Manila *MANILA BULLETIN* in English 26 Apr 88 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Sen Wigberto Tanada described yesterday the consequences of a nuclear weapon explosion as the Senate opened discussions on Bill No. 413 which consolidate all legislative measures on anti-nuclear policy.

Reporting out the bill, known as the Freedom from Nuclear Weapons Act, Tanada said the total explosive strength of all nuclear warheads may be equivalent to about one million Hiroshima bombs.

This means more than three tons of TNT for every man, woman, and child on earth as there are an estimated 40,000 nuclear warheads in the world today.

United Nations reports say the effect of nuclear weapons when exploded in a nuclear war is of such magnitude that it is almost beyond man's own imagining and contemplation, Tanada said.

If a one-megaton bomb is exploded on JUSMAG [Joint U.S. Military Action Group] in Quezon City at "ground zero," the blast would wipe out the population within a radius of 3.84 kilometers, he said. Winds of 256 to 480 kilometers per hour would demolish structures. The explosion would kill one million with the blast wave, another 250,000 with burns.

The second ring would include Manila, San Juan, Caloocan, and Mandaluyong.

Less than five minutes from detonation, a mushroom-shaped cloud 16 kilometers wide and 19.2 kilometers high would cast a dark shadow over Metro Manila.

Senate Bill No. 413 consolidates Bill Nos. 66, 67 and 216. The bills declare the adoption of the nuclear-free policy within Philippine territory.

They also prohibit the manufacture, ownership, possession, storage, sale, lease, distribution or use of nuclear weapons of all kinds and the landing, beaching, docking or anchoring in or sailing through or flying into, over or through the territory by any nuclear-powered craft or nuclear weapons-laden vessel.

The third bill provides for the monitoring of policy implementation and creates a Nuclear Weapons Monitoring Commission.

Commercial nuclear-powered vessels are exempted from the act, subject to guarantees and inspection provisions.

Under the consolidated bill the Philippines shall not participate or be involved in any activity that shall contribute to or encourage the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Any treaty or international agreement entered into by the Philippines shall include a condition that no nuclear weapons or components shall be introduced, stored or installed in, or pass in transit through, any part of Philippine territory.

U.S., Soviet Envoys Comment
HK2704100088 Hong Kong AFP in English
0950 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Text] Manila, April 27 (AFP)—U.S. Ambassador to Manila Nicholas Platt said Wednesday that the economic prosperity of Asia was tied to the security provided by U.S. bases in the Philippines.

The U.S. envoy said that would-be investors in the region were "definitely" watching the outcome of a review of the agreement allowing Washington access to Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base until 1991.

The bases agreement has "meant so much for a stable investment climate and a fast economic growth rate throughout Asia," Mr. Platt told a group of business executives here.

He cited a resolution by the Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce in 1987 which "acknowledged the importance of the presence of the bases in the Philippines has for the security and stability of the Asian region and the importance of that in the investment climate."

The U.S. ambassador would not speculate on the economic impact of a removal of the U.S. military facilities from the Philippines.

The Soviet Ambassador to Manila, Oleg Sokolov, told a civic group here Wednesday that Moscow's security planners work on the assumption that there are nuclear weapons at Clark and Subic.

Soviet security planners "proceed on that assumption," he said.

The Manila panel to the bases review has said the Philippines will enforce a constitutional ban on nuclear weapons in the country and that it would demand access to secret areas in the bases including a sensitive code room.

U.S. policy is to neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on its bases, vessels or aircraft.

"Do you really believe that the very concept of neither confirming it or denying the presence of nuclear weapons would have been invented in the first place had it not been for the purpose of covering up something?" Mr. Sokolov said.

Leftist and nationalist groups have demanded the removal of the U.S. bases, saying they violate the sovereignty of the Philippines and are potential Soviet nuclear targets.

Mr. Sokolov reiterated Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's 1986 pledge to reciprocate a reduction of U.S. military forces in Asia. He would not say if this meant a removal of Soviet military facilities in Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay.

The Soviet ambassador said Moscow can do "many things" if U.S. forces pull out of the Philippines, and these include "some reductions (of military forces) in the territory of the Soviet Union."

The Philippine and U.S. panels in the bases talks said in joint statement Wednesday that they have discussed socio-economic issues connected with the bases, including AIDS.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome experts from the Philippine Health Department and the U.S. Navy joined the session. There are 52 recorded cases of AIDS in the Philippines, most of them among women working in nightclubs catering to U.S. servicemen outside the U.S. bases.

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said a panel would be set up to study the possibility of Manila producing more of its own military material by expanding an existing military self-reliance development program created more than a decade ago.

The Philippine military, which is battling a 25,000-strong communist insurgency, is highly dependent on military aid supplied by the United States as compensation for the presence of the bases.

Soviet Asia-Pacific Proposals
HK2704123988 Hong Kong AFP in English
1226 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Text] Manila, April 27 (AFP)—Soviet Ambassador to Manila Oleg Sokolov unveiled a set of proposals Wednesday aimed at curbing a build-up of nuclear weapons by the superpowers in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr. Sokolov also called for a reduction of U.S. and Soviet naval activities in the Pacific Ocean and a cut in the armed forces and conventional weapons of the superpowers in Asia and the Pacific.

"We propose not to increase the number of Soviet nuclear-capable aircraft in the Asian part of the USSR provided the U.S. does not deploy in the region additional nuclear systems capable of reaching our territory," he said.

Moscow proposes to "curb the rivalry in anti-submarine warfare systems" and "to start talks on reducing the activities of Soviet and American navies in the Pacific solas to reduce the danger of possible confrontation," he added.

Mr. Sokolov also told a civic group here that Soviet security planners "proceed on (the) assumption" that nuclear weapons are deployed at two U.S. military bases in the Philippines, Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base.

U.S. policy is to neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on its bases, vessels or aircraft. Washington is currently negotiating with Manila on the future of the U.S. bases after 1991, when their lease expires.

Mr. Sokolov said his country had offered "to restrict the areas where naval vessels carrying nuclear weapons usually operate," and to "limit the scale of naval exercises in the Pacific and Indian Oceans."

The Philippines, which plans to enforce a nuclear-free provision in its new constitution, has said it wants to limit the current unhampered U.S. access to the facilities.

Moscow can do "many things" if U.S. forces withdraw from the Philippines, Mr. Sokolov said, adding that these include "some reductions (of military forces) in the territory of the Soviet Union."

But he said "the other side has shown no interest thus far in joining us in resolving the issues of security and cooperation in the Pacific."

He said "the USSR will continue to urge the U.S. to start talks on nuclear disarmament in the Asia-Pacific region and to solve this problem on a reciprocal basis, strictly observing the security interests of all."

Mr. Sokolov declined to answer when asked how Moscow rated Clark and Subic as targets. Manila says the bases have little use for its external defense, while nationalists charge they would attract a Soviet nuclear attack.

Mr. Sokolov would not say whether Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's 1986 pledge that Moscow would reciprocate a reduction of U.S. military forces in the region meant it would withdraw its facilities from Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay.

On economic relations with the region, Mr. Sokolov said Moscow had set up a national committee for Asian-Pacific economic cooperation in March to promote economic, scientific and technical contacts with Asia and the Pacific.

The committee chairman, academic Eugeny Primakov, is to go to Osaka, for a meeting of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference, while Soviet banking representatives are to attend an Asian Development Bank meeting here Thursday, he added.

ALBANIA

U.S.-Soviet Exchanges on Military Doctrine Denounced

AU271035 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian
23 Apr 88 p 4

[Elmas Leci article: "The Superpowers Exchange or Coordinate Their Military Doctrines"]

[Text] Military relations have been and remain an important dimension of relations between the two superpowers, and the more comprehensive bilateral treaties multiply, the more stress is placed upon their military aspects. In this context, the importance placed on proposals to exchange military information between the superpowers is striking. In fact, it is the Soviet Union, or more specifically its most responsible military leaders, that originated this proposal, but the suggestion has awakened a response among many American military theorists and strategists. Without properly explaining how this exchange of information is to be carried out, or in what shape, or what it will lead to, both sides are now mounting a propaganda campaign as if performing this exchange will bring world peace in the military sphere to the entire world. "Soviet and American awareness of the military principles of the other side," the chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Army, Akhromeyev, writes in PRAVDA, "restrains aggression and strengthens defensive capacity." Various military specialists write in the American press that "the exchange of military information brings an element of pacification into the military sphere and into bilateral and international relations." Both sides, both the Americans and the Soviets, unite in their efforts to give the international public the impression that exchanging military information will be a great contribution toward reducing international tension and creating an atmosphere of peace throughout the globe.

Exchanging military information means that such information must include clauses, paragraphs, ideas, and goals that are unknown to the general public. However, both the Americans and the Soviets have hitherto publicized the defensive character of their military plans and have even claimed that they have published all the constituent elements of their military principles. If military plans have been published and are already well known, then why is there any need to exchange them officially, and why is it so important to create a new institution for Soviet-American discussions? It becomes obvious that exchanging military information does not mean merely a mutual knowledge of each other's military principles, tactics, and strategy, but involves the entire network of relations and the global strategy of the U.S.A. and the USSR.

The exchange of military information between the superpowers is not and cannot be an exchange of theoretical military handbooks. It concentrates mainly upon coordinating the superpowers' military activity throughout the world. This coordination of military activity is

extremely extensive and concerns the whole gamut of military problems which American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism have been discussing for decades. These have included bilateral talks and agreements about different sorts of weapons, talks about solving regional conflicts, the deployment of troops and warships in various areas of the globe, the arms trade, and so forth. The United States and the Soviet Union have embarked on bilateral talks on all these topics.

Exchanging military information is thus evidently part of the aim to preserve zones of influence, something which is currently in the interest of both sides. Moreover, consultations on the tactical thinking involved in military plans give both sides the opportunity to discuss the nonviolation of the parameters laid down for the operation of their fleets in seas and oceans and the conduct of maneuvers without violating the borders of each other's spheres of influence. The exchange of military information also involves measures to preserve military equilibrium, which both sides propagandize as a way of preserving peace. This is how this idea is expressed in the military principles of the Warsaw Pact: "Military and strategic parity remains the decisive factor in preventing war." The same idea is expressed in other words in NATO's principles: "Let us preserve what we have achieved." So, ensuring strategic balance between the two superpowers and their military blocs, which is in fact an illusion which the United States and the USSR strive to impose upon the peoples, is publicized as a form of protection and guarantee. Facts and events show that this balance is daily becoming an enormous imbalance. At a time when the trumpets are sounding the fanfare of disarmament, Europe is being filled with other tactical weapons and missiles of various kinds and functions, increasing firepower by 10 to 12 percent, not by the 3 to 4 percent that will be lost because of the withdrawal of Euromissiles.

The purpose of the exchange of Soviet and American military information is expressed very clearly in the statement of the Soviet defense minister, Dmitriy Yazov, which was issued a few days ago by TASS, and in which he stressed that by exchanging information "We (the Soviets) and the Americans will discuss the problem of preventing incidents between armed forces." So, the aim of the two superpowers is to coordinate ideas and viewpoints and to determine an "reasonable sufficiency" which will maintain a balance between their destructive military forces, so that the stocks of weaponry and human resources on both sides will be equal, in order to be able to dictate to other countries and peoples, and to be able to hold bargaining sessions to divide and redive zones of influence without the outbreak of a war which would lead to mutual destruction and annihilation. In short, their aim in exchanging military information is neither to preserve peace, nor to eliminate weapons, nor to put an end to wars. Their true aim is to parcel out spheres of influence between the two superpowers, to temporarily remove conflicts between them, to preserve the status quo, and to jointly dominate the world.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Pugwash Symposium Discusses Nuclear-Free Corridor

Prague Session Ends

AU211735 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
18 Apr 88 p 1

[CTK report: "The Prague Symposium of the Pugwash Movement Concluded"]

[Excerpts] Prague—A symposium of the Pugwash Movement—already the 50th—ended in Prague on Sunday [17 April].

The symposium discussed, among other things, issues connected with a zone free of nuclear weapons. One of the views heard was that, from the military point of view, such a 100-300 km zone is not of too great importance. However, the overwhelming majority of scientists think that precisely such a course would contribute to a better understanding and would be a step toward a further limitation of the arms buildup. After all, it is precisely Europe which is literally a stockpile of various weapons.

When the scientists discussed chemical weapons, they sharply condemned their deployment in the Iraq-Iran war near the city of Halabjah last March and April.

Delegation Meets With Husak

LD190453 Prague CTK in English
2000 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 18 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak received here Monday a delegation of the Pugwash Movement, led by Professor John P. Holdren, chairman of the Pugwash Movement Executive Committee and chairman of the Federation of U.S. Scientists.

John P. Holdren appreciated the role of Czechoslovak scientists in the movement and in organizing the symposium held here on April 14-17, which contributed to the unification of a number of views on the solution of military and non-military aspects of peaceful cooperation in Europe. He thanked for the opportunity to hold a two-day session of the Pugwash Council in Czechoslovakia, which is taking place here these days.

In a friendly discussion, attended by Dorothy Hodgkin, Martin M. Kaplan, Joseph Rotblat, and Maciej Nalecz, the two sides stressed the permanent significance of the idea of the first Pugwash Conference held 31 years ago on the initiative of Albert Einstein's and Bertrand Russell's manifesto calling for a ban on nuclear arms, a halt to the arms race and establishment of permanent peace in the world.

Gustav Husak highly appreciated the devoted activities of the Pugwash conferences on science and world affairs which have acquired great authority in the world.

He stressed that the preservation of peace under present conditions is a useful prerequisite for the existence itself, and for further development of civilization. This need is particularly strong in Czechoslovakia, laying on the line dividing two military alliances. That is also why the efforts of the Czechoslovak people are permanently directed to the support of the Soviet peace proposals and the initiatives of other socialist countries striving for peaceful coexistence and the development of mutually advantageous cooperation among nations, and thus for detente in Europe and the whole world. This is also the aim of all Czechoslovak initiatives, Gustav Husak pointed out.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

FRG SPD's Bahr Interviewed on Military Detente, Nuclear-Free Corridor

DW221130 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1700 GMT 21 Apr 88

[SPD disarmament expert Egon Bahr interview by unidentified correspondent—date and place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] What definite steps were regarded as effecting military detente in the SPD's position paper on military detente?

[Bahr] First, we support the extension of the nuclear-free corridor as it was agreed upon with the SED, and we support a chemical weapons-free zone. We think both points will have increasing influence in the course of negotiations—which we hope will begin—on stability between the Atlantic and the Urals in Europe. Besides, we believe the nuclear aspect—that is, further reduction aimed at reducing the number of nuclear weapons in the countries that have such weapons—must also be taken into account during the conventional negotiations and not be indefinitely postponed.

[Correspondent] What is SPD Bundestag Group's position on modernization, which is increasingly heard following the INF treaty?

[Bahr] I might simply say that we are opposed to compensating for the weapons systems that are supposed to be removed under the INF treaty. We object that the word modernization is misused for what are in fact new weapons systems.

[Correspondent] What would be the effect of a nuclear weapons-free corridor? [Bahr] Well, there is the concern that when the INF weapons are gone, there will be short-range weapons or combat field weapons, with more impact on Germany the shorter the range. There is a lot of concern about that. If such weapons are brought out of the corridor, then they can no longer hit the FRG or the GDR, if you know your arithmetic. That means increased security. It is quite unlikely that nuclear weapons would be directed against areas where there are no such weapons.

[Correspondent] What expectations do you have personally for the international meeting on nuclear weapons-free zones to be held in Berlin in June, in which you will participate?

[Bahr] I hope there will be agreement that it is nonsense to talk about the nuclear weapons-free corridor, while regarding it as the denuclearization of Europe, because even then there will continue to exist American, British, French, and Soviet nuclear weapons. I hope that there will be agreement that true denuclearization in the actual sense of the word cannot exist on one continent in which there are some 200 nuclear reactors. In case of conventional war, no one can guarantee that shells would miss the reactors. That means that we have 200 potential Chernobyls in Europe. By the way, we have some interesting chemical plants, not only in Switzerland, but also in both German states and certainly in other countries. That means we could conclude that even a conventional war is simply no longer conceivable without taking into account that central Europe's civilization might revert, within an extremely short period, to the state it was in before World War I. Enough! Let us end it.

Kohl Sends Message to Honecker on Disarmament
LD221230 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1132 GMT 22 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 22 Apr (ADN)—In connection with reports in the FRG, GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer stated in response to questions on Friday that a letter from FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl was handed over recently to Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, in reply to a letter from him on 14 December 1987. The contents of the letter from the Federal Chancellor are being carefully examined.

Without anticipating the results of studying its contents, it is possible to note, as an initial impression, a far-reaching agreement of the overall views and positions set out in it on the continuation of the disarmament process, with those of the NATO summit in Brussels 2-3 March 1988.

Helmut Kohl did not deal with the proposals and ideas submitted by Erich Honecker for concrete contributions to disarmament by the two German states, the spokesman said in conclusion.

Daily Criticizes U.S. Stealth Bomber Development
AU252016 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 23-24 Apr 88 p 2

[“W.M.” commentary: “Milestones”]

[Text] Recently U.S. Secretary of the Air Force Edward Aldridge spoke of a “milestone.” But he meant neither the agreement signed by his President and the general

secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on the elimination of the intermediate-range missiles of both states, nor the treaty on the halving of their strategic arsenals that is envisaged as the next big step on the path of disarmament. The secretary used the enthusiastic term milestone to describe the so-called Stealth bomber, also known as the B-2.

Aldridge announced that the airplane is going to make its first flight in autumn. The U.S. Air Force plans to acquire 132 units of this new weapon which is considered a strategic system and is top secret. The Stealth bomber is reportedly able to undercut radar systems and to penetrate well into enemy territory without being discovered—of course not with McDonald's hamburgers or Mickey Mouse comics aboard, but with nuclear weapons.

Thus, the B-2 is a new strategic nuclear offensive weapon. It is destined to further increase those arsenals whose reduction to 50 percent of their current level is at present intensively negotiated by the Soviet Union and the United States. The Stealth bomber not only undercuts radar but, above all, also undermines the treaty on strategic offensive weapons, the conclusion of which is demanded and expected by all mankind.

And this bomber is supposed to be a milestone? On which path? Clearly on the path of the arms race, the efforts for military supremacy—thus on the path which, in the end, can only lead to nuclear suicide, to a nuclear inferno.

As one can see, Secretary Aldridge is one of those who march in the opposite direction from us, from the peoples on all continents and also from most of their statesmen. Our milestones are real disarmament steps, and our path is leading to a world free of all nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Until then the peoples who want to live in peace with each other have to struggle along toward many other milestones, to bar the way to those who want to drag our world backwards and to those who want to turn the disarmament treaties into nothing more than a useless piece of paper by increasing armaments in other weapons systems.

Mexican President Responds to GDR NFZ Meeting Invitation

LD021748 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1554 GMT 2 May 88

[Text] Berlin, 2 May (ADN)—President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado of Mexico sent a letter to Erich Honecker announcing his support for the holding of the international meeting for nuclear weapons-free zones in Berlin from 20 to 22 June.

De la Madrid thanked the SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR Council of State chairman for his government's invitation to the meeting. In this context he agreed unreservedly with Honecker's assessment that the current historical moment required extra steps to secure the path to general and complete disarmament.

"Specific agreements between the two superpowers, in the area of nuclear disarmament, on a significant reduction in their strategic potentials or on banning nuclear weapons tests would be significant steps in this direction, just like the increase in nuclear weapons-free zones," the letter says.

De la Madrid points out that, as the main initiator of the first densely populated nuclear weapons-free zone, Mexico thinks the creation of further zones represents the most important way to general and complete disarmament under effective international control. As a large part of conventional and nuclear arms in the world is concentrated in Europe, Erich Honecker's initiative is of great significance for achieving the goal of liberating the world from nuclear weapons.

Mexico's president welcomed the idea of holding talks in various commissions on the issues to be dealt with at the conference. "In this context I would consider it interesting if one of the issues to be discussed were related to the cooperation or help that the Organization for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (OPANAL) might offer in creating or constituting a zone, and regarding the activities of similar bodies dealing with verifying compliance with the obligations arising from the status of nuclear weapons-free zones," the letter continues.

President de la Madrid informed the GDR Council of State chairman that the Mexican Government accepts the invitation to participate in the meeting and will take it up.

POLAND

Chief Delegate Addresses CSCE Plenary Session

Urges Compromise

LD230050 Warsaw PAP in English
1707 GMT 22 Apr 88

[By PAP Correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, April 22—Delegations of 35 European and North American states, taking part in the CSCE review meeting, held another plenary session here today.

Taking the floor, head of the Polish delegation Ambassador Włodzimierz Konarski urged for solving the most difficult problems and for assistance to neutral and nonaligned countries in the working out of a

compromise document which would crown the work of the Vienna meeting and could be accepted by all sides concerned. Only then will it be possible to end the Vienna meeting during this summer, which also is a condition for preventing the depreciation of the process of security and cooperation in Europe, he said.

Speaks at News Conference

LD262221 Warsaw PAP in English
1950 GMT 26 Apr 88

[By PAP correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, April 26—Two press conferences related to the works of the 35 delegations from European countries, Canada, and the U.S. which are taking part in the CSCE process were held at the Austria Press Centre here today.

Taking the floor during one of the conferences, Poland's Ambassador Włodzimierz Konarski presented the stance of Polish delegation for the CSCE Vienna meeting and stressed that if the comprehensive draft document which is now being prepared by the neutral and non-aligned countries turns out to be an authentically balanced compromise, it may produce a breakthrough in the works of the CSCE Vienna meeting.

The head of the Polish delegation also discussed the scope of problems tackled by 23 Warsaw Treaty and NATO states during their talks concerning the mandate of future negotiations on the reduction of military forces and conventional weapons in Europe. If the parties managed to find a solution which would make it possible to include in the future negotiations the double purpose weapons, then the successful conclusion of these talks could be expected within a few weeks, Konarski said. He also answered a number of questions from the participating journalists.

'Generals for Peace and Disarmament' Meet, Discuss Defensive Doctrine

LD262231 Warsaw PAP in English
2015 GMT 26 Apr 88

[By PAP correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, April 26—Three-day debates of the 5th meeting of retired generals and admirals from the Warsaw Treaty member states and NATO taking part in the works of the international group "Generals for Peace and Disarmament" started here today under the motto "War Against War".

On the first day of the debates, members of the Polish delegation, Retired Generals Marian Ryba and Rudolf Dzianow distributed among participants the draft document concerning the meeting of the group of generals of the two military groupings held last November in Warsaw. The Warsaw meeting concerned "Determinants of Regarding Military Doctrines as

Exclusively Defensive," as envisaged in the Jaruzelski Plan. The results of the two-day debate of the Warsaw meeting were included in the document which after the approval by the Vienna conference will be distributed among leading politicians and military commanders of the two alliances.

From informal talks with the participants of the present meeting one could learn that a proposal will be put forth for an international meeting of retired generals to be held in September of 1989 to mark the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of World War Two. The Polish delegation suggested then that the meeting be held in Poland.

INDIA

Minister Hopes for Successful Reagan-Gorbachev Talks

52500019 New Delhi PATRIOT in English
25 Mar 88 p 5

[Text] India on Tuesday expressed the hope that the Moscow summit between President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev would be successful and the clouds of nuclear war would disappear, reports PTI.

This was stated by Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh in the Rajya Sabha while answering supplementaries during question hour.

Mr Singh said India was against nuclear tests in the air, water or underground and stood for elimination of all nuclear weapons. He hoped that this issue would be resolved during the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting in Moscow in May. He said India's best wishes were for the success of the Moscow summit.

Mr Singh said the second round of the US-Soviet negotiations on nuclear testing issues which commenced in Geneva on 15 February was expected to conclude by mid April. The outcome must therefore be awaited, he told Dr Ratnakar Pandey.

The Minister said the Geneva negotiations were aimed at designing and carrying out joint experiments to find mutually acceptable methods of verifying the yield of nuclear tests.

They were not concerned in anyway with cessation or prohibition of nuclear testing, which has been stated to be the ultimate objective of the negotiations and which is to be taken up only in the long term when an effective disarmament process is under way.

As such the outcome of the current round of negotiations is not expected to have any impact on the US SDI programme, the Minister added.

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IRAN

UN Envoy Calls for Probe of Iraq's CW Use

LD231209 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Apr 88

[Text] The UN secretary general has once again condemned the Zionist Iraqi regime's use of chemical weapons. This is the subject of our latest news report:

[Words indistinct] The UN secretary general has expressed strong anxiety about the renewed use of chemical weapons by Iraq. He stressed that Iraq's actions seriously confound all his efforts with regard to the imposed war. He also stressed that the recent U.S. attack

directly violated Article 5 of Security Council Resolution 598. He expressed the hope that the United States would refrain from such acts in the future.

At the same meeting [as heard], Mohammad Ja'far Mahallati, the Islamic Republic of Iran's representative at the United Nations, as well as asking for the dispatch of a UN expert delegation to the region where Iraq used chemical weapons, has submitted a note to the UN secretary general in connection with the renewed use of such weapons against our country's civilian areas. He also met and conferred with some members of the Security Council. He discussed with them the use of chemical weapons and U.S. aggression in the Persian Gulf.

Our country's representative at the United Nations has informed the UN secretary general and members of the Security Council that, although the report of the UN delegation investigating the use of chemical weapons by Iraq in Halabjah, and the resulting human casualties, has not yet been published, the aggressor Iraqi regime has resumed extensive use of chemical weapons against civilian areas with two principal aims: first, to undermine the work of the recently dispatched delegation; second, to defeat once and for all the proposal and efforts of the secretary general to achieve a comprehensive solution. He said: Undoubtedly, the Security Council's silence in connection with Iraq's crimes, which are, in the main, the result of U.S. vetoes in the Security Council, has encouraged Iraq in the pursuit of these inhumane and aggressive aims. He added: For quite some time the Islamic Republic of Iran has predicted the world-wide dangers of the quantitative and qualitative expansion of war crimes and of Iraq's violation of international law, and it has given the necessary warnings to the UN secretary general. Unfortunately, the inaction of that organization has consistently left the path open to Iraq.

Addressing the secretary general, Mahallati added: We request the renewed and immediate despatch of a UN expert delegation in order to investigate the resumed use of chemical weapons by Iraq, and we hope that this time the secretary general will act without delay or hesitation. We must reiterate at the same time that Iraq's increasing use of chemical weapons, and the weak and ineffective reaction of the United Nations has created yet another worthless round to the advantage of Iraq and against the international community. This situation has lasted since 1984, that is, since the dispatch of the first UN expert delegation to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He asked the secretary general to clarify the designated duties of the secretary general and the Security Council in the face of this great international crime so as to preclude any chance of delay or hesitation in the Security Council. He expressed the hope that the next UN delegation to the areas in which chemical weapons were used will include all the necessary experts for preparing a comprehensive report.

He also analyzed the explosive situation of the Persian Gulf, the outcome of the recent U.S. aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran's oil platforms. He reminded the secretary general that the mere

expression of dismay is not enough, and that the United Nations must do something decisive and practical to punish and prevent such acts of aggression.

U.S. On-Site Inspection Agency Official Interviewed
52001066 Moscow *IZVESTIYA* in Russian
14 Apr 88 p 4

[A. Shalnev interview under the headline: "The Pentagon on the Line": "They Are Looking for People Who Know Russian"—date not given]

[Text] New York—"What?" the Pentagon telephone operator asked, "Where is that?"

And she was even more surprised when I told her, "With you, in the Pentagon." Thus it became clear that even those who should know—and certainly a Defense Department telephone operator ought to know—don't even suspect the existence of an agency which was created in Washington and assigned to the Pentagon a few months ago. The agency is called the On-Site Inspection Agency. OIA for short.

It was born shortly after the Soviet and American leaders signed the treaty on medium- and short-range missiles in the U.S. capital.

The general who heads the OIA could not give an interview: He was "extremely busy." But one of his assistants—Kendall Pease—was called on to answer questions.

And so, we begin.

"What are the agency's functions?"

"Our employees will observe the destruction of Soviet missiles and will escort the Soviet experts who will come to the United States to verify the destruction of American missiles. Later they will carry out individual inspections and will establish a permanent observation mission in Votkinsk, where you have a missile factory."

"How many employees do you have?"

"One hundred and twenty-five in the head office and one hundred and twenty five inspectors."

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reported that one third of the inspectors are women. However, they will not be sent to Votkinsk: The climate is of course too severe.

"The cold doesn't frighten them?"

"We are buying special winter clothing."

"By the way, will they be in military uniform?"

"No, in civilian clothes."

"And where are you getting people? What are the job requirements?"

"We are getting people from government agencies and also from outside. Job requirements? Of course, they must understand military technology and know the Russian language..."

According to the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, there is a problem with Russian: There are not enough specialists. True, in the Pentagon there are training courses, somewhere in California. "We are also sending several of our future inspectors there," Kendall Pease said. But the problem remains.

"And how do the inspectors themselves feel about what they have before them?"

"Oh, they are very excited about it. They are proud to be part of this historic process."

Among other things, it turns out from press reports that OIA, as part of its preparations, has created a sort of dress rehearsal: Teams of inspectors suddenly appeared to inspect military nuclear facilities in the United States and Western Europe.

According to the agreement, the Soviet and American inspectors will come on duty thirty days after the exchange of instruments of ratification. The U.S. Senate has not yet ratified the treaty. But everything is going along so that it will be completed before President Reagan visits Moscow.

UD/330

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

SPD, SED, CPCZ Urge Chemical Weapons-Free Zone in Central Europe

52002444 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 6 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The SPD, the SED [Socialist Unity Party, GDR] and the CPCZ [Czechoslovak Communist Party] have jointly undertaken a new attempt to create a chemical weapons-free zone in Central Europe. A declaration presented simultaneously on Tuesday in Bonn, East Berlin, and Prague calls on the governments of the three countries to begin negotiations immediately on the removal of chemical agents from their territory. The United States and the Soviet Union should also take part.

Speaking to the press in Bonn, Karsten Voigt, the foreign affairs spokesman of the SPD Bundestag fraction, said that the recent initiative of the three parties on the chemical weapons-free zone was of special importance because the SED and the CPCZ had already publicly declared themselves ready for controls on their countries' chemical production facilities. Short-term inspections could, according to this proposal, determine whether conditions exist for production of chemical agents and whether they could be passed on to third countries. A step of this kind, made in advance by one region, might help to accelerate negotiations on a worldwide ban on chemical weapons on the basis of practical experience in a regional attempt, on a test basis, to enact disarmament policy. If an extensive, controlled, worldwide ban does not come about soon, the danger of warfare with chemical weapons will grow in many crisis areas.

Voigt pointed out that the SED and the CPCZ, as well as the SPD, welcome the intention to remove American chemical weapons unilaterally from the FRG by 1992. The two communist countries, however, would prefer an extension of this unilateral and control-free chemical weapons-free zone by an extensively controlled disarmament zone extended by the GDR and the CSSR. Voigt said that the two parties have only expressed themselves informally as to whether chemical weapons are stored in their regions. Should government negotiations be launched, said the SPD deputy, the GDR, and the CSSR would, then make an official statement on this question.

Honecker Invites SPD, FDP Leaders to Meeting on NFZs

LD211625 Hamburg DPA in German
1430 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—SED General Secretary Erich Honecker has invited SPD Chairman Hans-Jochen Vogel and FDP leader Martin Bangemann to an "international meeting for nuclear-weapon-free zones," to be held in East Berlin 20-22 June. The invitations were presented to the two party chairmen by Ewald Moldt, the GDR's

permanent representative in Bonn. The CDU knows nothing of such an invitation, party spokesman Juergen Merschmeier stated today when asked.

According to Honecker, the meeting is intended for joint discussions on how the disarmament process can be advanced and promoted. According to party spokesman Lothar Mahling, the FDP Presidium will discuss at one of its next sessions whether the invitation will be accepted. The Social Democrats announced back in March that a delegation including disarmament expert Egon Bahr will travel to East Berlin for the event.

Kohl Responds to Honecker Disarmament Message

LD221351 Hamburg DPA in German
1316 GMT 22 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Berlin (DPA)—Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl has responded to a letter from GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker on disarmament issues.

The Federal Chancellor's Office in Bonn confirmed that on 23 March Kohl replied to a letter from Honecker of 14 December. Honecker's letter had dealt with disarmament questions. Details were not given.

According to a report in the SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, Honecker had drawn attention to the possibility of a complete elimination of nuclear short-range missiles in Europe if NATO and the Warsaw Pact renounced their plans for the modernization of existing systems. Kohl had apparently rejected a third zero option. He is reported to have reminded Honecker that dialogue between Bonn and East Berlin did not include arms control negotiations. Only the NATO partners have so far been informed about the context of Kohl's letter.

Defense Minister-Designate Urges Disarmament 'Headway'

DW271230 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 1915 GMT 26 Apr 88

[“Excerpts” from interview with Defense Minister-Designate Rupert Scholz by correspondent Reimer on the “Report” program; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reimer] The climate between the major powers has changed, as demonstrated by the treaty on intermediate-range missiles. Are you in favor of disarmament?

[Scholz] Naturally. It is certainly our common goal, and my goal, that we will make headway in the field of disarmament policy, that we will not stop with the INF agreement, and that real progress will be achieved, particularly in the field of conventional disarmament.

Kohl Declines Honecker Invitation to Disarmament Meeting

*LD271551 Hamburg DPA in German
1525 GMT 27 Apr 88*

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Chairman of the CDU, has declined an invitation from SED leader Erich Honecker to take part in a disarmament meeting with other parties in East Berlin. This was stated by CDU spokesman Juergen Merschmeier today in response to an inquiry.

SPD Disarmament Expert Criticizes NATO Nuclear Planning Group

*LD281653 Hamburg DPA in German
1458 GMT 28 Apr 88*

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—The SPD's disarmament expert Hermann Scheer today criticized the results of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) conference in Brussels. The SPD politician accused the NATO defense ministers at the meeting of wanting to defer until 1989 the formulation of the called-for overall disarmament concept. This would mean a standstill in the disarmament process. It has also become clear following the NPG meeting that the Federal Government is merely stalling the public in asserting that decisions on new nuclear weapons will not be taken before 1992. The decision will, in fact, be taken in 1990, Scheer said.

Foreign Minister Genscher Against Talk of Weapons Modernization

*LD010839 Hamburg DPA in German
0713 GMT 1 May 88*

[Text] Berchtesgaden/Berlin (DPA)—Hans-Dietrich Genscher (FDP), the federal foreign minister, has warned against putting pressure on the disarmament negotiations between East and West through discussions about the modernization of Western short-range weapons.

At a party congress of the Bavarian FDP on Saturday at Berchtesgaden, Genscher called on the NATO partners to agree first on an overall security policy concept before making a decision on the modernization of individual weapon systems. "All the talking," for example about modernization of short-range weapons puts pressure on disarmament negotiations, the FDP politician said. People who were thinking every day about the modernization of nuclear weapon systems should realize that first of all, "it is a question of the modernization of thinking in our world."

Genscher underlined the chances for an economic opening-up towards the Soviet Union. Concerning criticism from the CDU/CSU that he was paying too much attention to the success of the policy of Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the FDP politician said that a Soviet Union which was opening up outwards was a more dependable partner than a country which was hardening itself inwards more and more.

Rupert Scholz (CDU), the future federal defense minister, has spoken out against "euphoric Gorbachevism" concerning the Soviet Union. In an interview with BILD AM SONNTAG, Scholz said that the decisive test for him was "whether the Soviet Union under Gorbachev is really ready to dispense with attack capability and invasion capability in the sphere of conventional armament."

According to Richard Burt, the U.S. ambassador in Bonn, the U.S. believes that progress in detente between East and West depends on the improvement in the situation of Berlin. It was decisive for the United States that developments around Berlin not lag behind the positive developments in U.S.-Soviet relations, Burt said in an interview for BERLINER MORGENPOST (Sunday's issue.) The U.S. ambassador expressed the hope that the Soviet Union will react positively to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Berlin initiative.